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Service Division

Committee on European Satellites

(Eusat Committee Meeting - 8th Meeting - 1330 11 April 1956)

Present:

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Nearly all of the discussion in the meeting was devoted to consideration of certain basic research objectives in each of the branches represented. Attention was given to the principal measures of growth in the fields of construction, communication, transportation and population and manpower. Some of the difficult problems involved in this area of research include ascertaining what percentage of total construction activity is represented by reported construction series, finding absolute base figures for use in analyzing certain indexes of telephone and telegraph performance, reconciling estimates for various growth factors in the transportation industry, and the perplexing problem of judging whether actual and anticipated growth in capability of each sector is consistent with general economic development.

Another basic problem discussed was that of measuring the efficiency of services industries. In the communications field the degree of efficiency is ascertained largely by inference based on the type of equipment in use. Efficiency in the construction industry is difficult to determine due to inherent instability and complexity of the industry. In the field of transportation various data are available for measuring efficiency of railroads but the problem is more difficult for other means of transport.

The reason for discussing the functions of various D/S branches concerning the problems of measuring growth and efficiency of the services industries was to improve the mutual understanding of Committee members with regard to basic research in the Division. It was felt that further consideration of the matter at a later date would be fruitful.

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The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 18 April in room 2125 M, the regular time and place for meetings. The principal topic for discussion will be "Recent Tendencies Toward Closer Economic Ties between Yugoslavia and the Bloc." It is suggested that pertinent information from various fields - particularly economic services - be brought into the meeting for discussion.

Chairman

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